

Tuesday Evening, Dec. 14, 1866.

WAR RUMORS. — A dispatch from London, Thursday, declares that war is looked upon as inevitable, and that Russia will open the ball in the spring; that she is making large preparations in secret and hopes to fall upon Austria by surprise. Travelers returning from Russia report ceaseless movements of troops, carefully masked, toward the German and Austrian frontiers and Bessarabia. Work on the Russian iron-roads is pushed with feverish haste, and the arsenals are reported to be working day and night.

It is also believed in London that the present situation is the delicate creation of Bismarck, that the "how's" and "why's" are not given. He may believe another war necessary to prevent troubles at home, and at the same time enlarge German influence and territory.

According to Republican papers, since Cleveland's election, longer for office exists only among Democrats. But according to Col. Hastings, Beaver's close and confidential friend, the G. O. I. still "hankers" in that direction. His statement being that there are four hundred applicants for the forty appointments under the Governor, and the list is not closed yet.

Cooper can't be Secretary of State, because he is now State Senator. Beaver has come to this conclusion, and his decision settles it. But it is hardly fair that Quay should thus distance the hard-working State Chairman.

Born Houses of Congress got down to work on Tuesday. In the Senate Messrs. Morrill and Davis offered resolutions looking to the protection of home industries in any revision of the tariff that may be attempted. Mr. Beck introduced his coin certificate bill. The Pacific Railroad funding bill was made the special order for December 21. In the House a number of bills were introduced, among them one to change the time for the beginning of terms of Congress, and another to prevent the contraction of the currency.

On Wednesday Mr. Matsen introduced a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue United States notes of the same denominations as any national bank that may have been heretofore or may hereafter be retired from circulation by reason of the payment of any bonds held by national banks to secure their circulation.

The annual appropriation bill provides for an appropriation of \$5,175,000, which is a reduction of \$350,000, as compared with the appropriation for the current year, and \$120,000 below the estimate submitted by the Interior Department. The principal reductions are \$50,000 in the estimates for Indian schools (the effect of which is to cut out all the funds available for new school buildings) \$150,000 in the appropriation for the support and civilization of the Sioux, and \$25,000 in the appropriation for the maintenance and civilization of the Navajo.

TRADED DOLLARS. — In the Senate on Thursday Mr. Seward introduced a bill for the redemption of trade dollars, which provides that for six months trade dollars, if not defaced, mutilated or stamped, shall be received at their face value in payment of all dues of the United States. For the same period holders of trade dollars, on presentation of the same at the United States depositories, may receive in exchange like amounts in face value in standard silver dollars or subsidiary coin. The trade dollars received shall not be retained, but shall be received into standard dollars.

It is thought that the river and harbor bill this winter will only be half what it was last.

The Electoral Count bill passed the House on Thursday, with a few amendments, in which the Senate will doubtless concur. The bill provides that the electors of each State shall meet and give their votes for President and Vice-President on the second Monday in January next after their appointment; that the decision arrived at by the State tribunal provided by the laws of any State for the settlement of controversies as to the appointment of electors, shall be conclusive; that the electors and House shall meet on the second Wednesday in February after the meeting of the electors to count the votes cast for President and Vice-President, and the counting shall be in the journals of the two houses; that objections to a vote shall be made in writing, and argument, and the House, Senate, having withdrawn to its own chamber, both houses shall vote upon the validity of each objection, and a cloture vote, requiring a two-thirds vote by electors, shall be rejected if there be but one return. In case of two or more returns, these votes only shall be counted which have been regularly given by electors approved by the State tribunals provided to pronounce upon such a matter.

The Democrats of New Haven, on Tuesday, elected their candidate for mayor by 500 majority. The labor ticket, elected 1,100 votes.

Mr. George A. Allen, a leading Democratic lawyer of Erie, has been appointed United States attorney for the western district of Pennsylvania to succeed Wm. A. Stone, suspended for offensive partisanship.

Gen. BEAVER is to have an expensive inauguration. Of course, "boss" rules mean an extravagant use (the political term) of the people's money.

It is openly charged, upon good authority, that the Republicans of New Jersey received \$70,000 from two corporations toward their corruption fund in the late campaign.

SURVEYOR SPRINGER will remove to Philadelphia and form a law partnership with him.

W. HAYES GRIER, of Columbus, has been appointed a chief of division in the Patent Office at Washington.

The friends of P. Gray Meek, of Bellefonte, are anxious that he shall be made a Bank Examiner. It is proposed to make a change and if Meek is successful he is to have a share of the banks now under Mr. James' charge, and some others in the interior of the State, and Mr. James is to have 1,000 shares added to his district. There are properly two Examiners for Pennsylvania, and with the State fair divided, the places are worth \$3000 to \$4000 a year.

This action of the executive board of the Knights of Labor in laying a special assessment of 25 cents upon all members of the order is not favorably received in Chicago. Many local assemblies say they will not pay it.

The Glen Rock bank is getting into trouble. Over 20 per cent. of the assessment has been paid in, and the reserve fund is within a fraction of what is left by law.

INTER-STATE COMMERCE.

The House and Senate conferees on the Inter-State Commerce bill left over from last session have to adopt an agreement and prepare a bill, which will be presented at an early day and its adoption effected. It prohibits unjust discriminations by railroads between persons and places, the giving of special rates, preferences, etc., and requires railroads to publish their rates and to adhere to them when published. It applies to the transportation of both persons and property, and the term transportation is declared to include all instrumentalities of shipment or carriage, which is intended to bring fast freight lines, express companies, sleeping car companies, etc., within the application of the act. Printed copies of the rates must be kept in every depot and no advance in rates can be made without ten days' notice, and must be immediately published. If a railroad refuses to make its rates public, the United States Commission must institute proceedings in the United States Courts, which may enforce obediences. Ex-President Arthur's will be quashed if his \$150,000 equally to his two children.

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Tuesday Evening, Dec. 14, 1868.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.

DOUGHNUTS.

Break 2 eggs in a bowl, with 1 large cup of sugar, 1 cup sour milk, 1 teaspoon, soda, spice to suit the taste. Mix very soft. That is the secret of good fried cakes. Have your fat hot; dip it in or out; they will almost turn over themselves as they are hot; keep some going in and some coming out all the time; the last ones eat the fat, so the first ones do not get so brown; but cook through.

COOKIES.

Two cups of white sugar, 1 cup of butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 2 spoons of baking powder, nutmeg; flour enough to roll out; better roll out thin, and a hot oven to bake in.

GINGERSNAPS.

One cup-een New Orleans molasses; 1 cup coffee; 1 cup sugar; place them on the stove, and let it come to a boil. Then take it immediately, and add two spoonfuls of soda, and a tablespoon of ginger. Roll out and bake quickly.

COFFEE CAKES.

Two cups of white sugar, 1 cup of butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 2 spoons of baking powder, nutmeg; flour enough to roll out; better roll out thin, and a hot oven to bake in.

LICORICE SNAPS.

One cup-een New Orleans molasses; 1 cup coffee; 1 cup sugar; place them on the stove, and let it come to a boil. Then take it immediately, and add two spoonfuls of soda, and a tablespoon of ginger. Roll out and bake quickly.

TWO COFFEE CAKES.

Two eggs, 1 cup brown sugar; 1 cup butter; 1 cup of milk; 1 teaspoonful of soda; 2 teaspoons of cream-of-tartrar. Work this to a stiff dough, and roll out to about 1/4 inch in thickness. Sift ground cinnamon over evenly; then roll up like roll-jelly cake. Cut slices about a 1/4 inch thick from the roll; drop into granulated sugar, and bake thoroughly with sugar'd up.

PUMPKIN LOAF.

For 2 loaves, take 2 cups butter; 3 cups each of wheat flour and corn meal; 1 cup steamed pumpkin; 1 cup molasses; 1 cup butter, 2 eggs, 1 tablespoon spoon of soda, and a tablespoon of ginger. Roll out 1 1/2 hours, then bake 1 hour.

ALMOND BREAD.

Two eggs; the weight of 10 eggs in powdered sugar; the weight of 8 eggs in sifted flour; 1 grated rad and juice of 1 lemon; 1/2 cup of butter, 1/2 cup sugar together to a light frost. Then beat them, then the lemon, and a pinch of salt; stir in the flour gradually until well mixed; bake in long narrow pans three inches deep, on buttered paper; fill the pans 1/2; bake in a quick oven. The shape and depth of the pan have a great deal to do with the quality of the cake.

SCONE CAKES.

Two eggs; the weight of 10 eggs in powdered sugar; 1/2 cup of butter; 1/2 cup of milk; 1/2 cup of flour; 1/2 cup of sugar; 1/2 cup of cream-of-tartrar. Work this to a stiff dough, and roll out to about 1/4 inch in thickness. Sift ground cinnamon over evenly; then roll up like roll-jelly cake. Cut slices about a 1/4 inch thick from the roll; drop into granulated sugar, and bake thoroughly with sugar'd up.

DOES PAY TO DRAIN.

ONE COUNTRY GROCERANT. The present farm produce is becoming at present, will hardly bring the farmer through, if he lives well and keeps his buildings and tools in good shape. He must work hard and live good meat to do over this. The only chance I know for farmers at present in Michigan is to look further ahead in some respects that they have been doing. One has 10 to 20 acres of land on which I have to pay heavy taxes. If I could afford to ditch it, I could get something out of it. Another says, if my farm were as good as yours, I could get rich in a few years; but I have 10 to 20 acres of waste land in my 40. Still another says, make some money out of my good land, but I get 6 per cent. interest for what I have to spare, so I can't afford to do anything with my waste land. Here is where many of our Michigan farmers are getting poor. I have had some success, but not much, and that is there is not one acre of land in the peninsula of Michigan, which, if properly drained, will not bring a profit of at least 7 per cent. Farmers who are not their money in savings banks when they have a little waste land (as they call it) on their farms are throwing away 2 or 3 per cent.

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